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Agenda item 8

DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE FIRST PART OF THE THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION

Rapporteur: Mr. Resi Gunarto Prasodjo (Indonesia)

Addendum

STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF EVALUATION FINDINGS IN PROGRAMME DESIGN, DELIVERY AND POLICY DIRECTIVES

1. At its 2nd to 5th meetings, held on 16 and 17 May 1994, the Committee considered the progress report on strengthening the role of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives (A/49/99 and Corr.1).

Discussion

2. A number of delegations found the report to be useful and informative.

3. Most delegations expressed disappointment at the low number of self-evaluations undertaken during 1992-1993.

4. A number of delegations expressed concern that programme managers made changes in resource allocation and stated that the authority for such decisions rested with the General Assembly. The Secretariat remarked that the changes were made within procedures established by the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation and the Financial Rules.

5. A number of delegations considered that in-depth evaluations should use the objectives of the medium-term plan as a benchmark and that problem-oriented approaches should be applied selectively. Some delegations stated that questions of methodology should be left to the Secretariat.

6. A number of delegations considered indicators, such as those listed in table 3, to have limited value.

7. With regard to recommendation 1, the Committee noted that the issue of the reporting cycle and the status of the Office for Inspections and Investigations were still under review in the General Assembly. Some delegations stated their support for the Secretary-General's proposals in that regard. Some delegations felt that reporting on implementation and evaluation should remain separate.

Conclusions and recommendations

8. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly endorse recommendation 3 (A/49/99, para. 45).

9. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly that the following programmes be subject to in-depth evaluation, in the years indicated:

1995: Peace-keeping operations: start-up phase
Environment

1996: Department of Public Information
Peace-keeping operations: termination phase

1997: Statistics
Department of Humanitarian Affairs